

**Appl. No.** : **10/017,341**  
**Filed** : **December 13, 2001**

### **REMARKS**

Restriction to one of the following groups was required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

**Group I.** Claims 1-6, 8 and 9, drawn to a method for applying a protective coating for a stent delivery system, classified in class 427, subclass 2.1.

**Group II.** Claims 7 and 10-14, drawn to a stent delivery system, classified in class 623, subclass 1.11

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Group II, that is, Claims 7 and 10-14.

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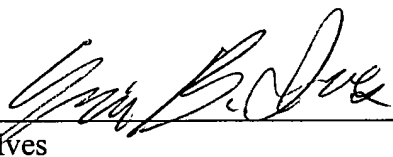
### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that this application be passed to issuance. If any points remain that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-given telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/24/04

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